

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA  
CASE NO. 23-CR-60212-ALTMAN

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

MICHEL MERCEDIS WILSON,

Defendant.

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FILED BY AT D.C.

**Mar 20, 2024**

ANGELA E. NOBLE  
CLERK U.S. DIST. CT.  
S. D. OF FLA. - FTL

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION ON CHANGE OF PLEA**

THIS CAUSE is before the Court on an Order of Reference (ECF No. 17) from United States District Judge Roy K. Altman for the purpose of conducting a proceeding for acceptance of a guilty plea by Defendant Michel Mercedis Wilson in the above-referenced case. On March 20, 2024, I conducted a Change of Plea hearing, attended by Defendant, her counsel Carter Hillstrom, and Assistant U.S. Attorneys Adam Love and Trevor Jones. I hereby REPORT and RECOMMEND to the District Court as follows:

1. At the outset of the hearing, I advised Defendant of her right to have these proceedings conducted by the District Judge assigned to the case. Further, I advised Defendant that I was conducting the Change of Plea hearing on an Order of Reference from the District Judge. I further advised Defendant that the District Judge assigned to this case would be the sentencing judge and would make all findings and rulings concerning Defendant's sentence.

2. I advised Defendant that she did not have to permit me, a United States Magistrate Judge, to conduct this hearing and could request that the Change of Plea hearing be conducted only

by a United States District Judge. Defendant and the Assistant United States Attorney assigned to the case all agreed on the record and consented to me conducting the Change of Plea hearing.

3. I conducted a plea colloquy in accordance with the outline set forth in the Bench Book for District Judges and Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

4. The Parties have entered into a written Plea Agreement. ECF No. 20. I reviewed the Plea Agreement on the record and had Defendant acknowledge that she signed and understood the Plea Agreement. I also made certain that Defendant was aware of any applicable mandatory minimum sentences (there are none) and statutory enhancements (there are none). I advised Defendant of the maximum sentence that could be imposed in this case pursuant to the Plea Agreement and the applicable statutes. Defendant acknowledged that she understood the possible maximum penalties (including fines, supervised release, restitution, forfeiture, and special assessments) that could be imposed in this case.

5. Defendant pleaded guilty to count 1 of the Indictment, which charges her with conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 846 and 841(a)(1).

6. The Parties provided a signed, agreed written factual basis for the entry of the plea (ECF No. 19), which includes all the essential elements of the crime to which Defendant is pleading guilty and any statutory sentencing enhancements and/or aggravating factors that may be applicable (there are none). Defendant acknowledged on the record that she read and understood the written factual proffer, had signed that proffer, agreed that the facts set forth in the proffer were true and accurate, and agreed that the proffer included the essential elements of the offense to which she is pleading guilty.

7. I advised Defendant about the possible immigration and other collateral

consequences of her guilty plea.


8. Defendant expressed satisfaction with her counsel's representation.

9. Defendant has been referred to the U.S. Probation Office for the preparation of a pre-sentence investigation report.

Based on all the foregoing and the plea colloquy, I **RECOMMEND** that Defendant, Michel Mercedis Wilson, (1) be found to have freely and voluntarily entered her guilty plea to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 846 and 841(a)(1), (2) that her plea of guilty be accepted, and (3) that she be adjudged guilty of this offense. I further recommend that a sentencing hearing be conducted for final disposition of this matter.

The parties will have fourteen (14) days from the date of being served with a copy of this Report and Recommendation within which to file written objections, if any, with the Honorable Roy K. Altman, United States District Judge. Failure to file objections timely shall bar the parties from a *de novo* determination by the District Judge of any issue covered in the Report and shall bar the parties from attacking on appeal unobjected-to factual and legal conclusions contained therein, except upon grounds of plain error if necessary in the interest of justice. *See* 28 U.S.C. 636(b)(1); *Thomas v. Arn*, 474 U.S. 140, 149 (1985); *Henley v. Johnson*, 885 F.2d 790, 794 (1989); 11<sup>th</sup> Cir. R. 3-1 (2016).

DONE AND SUBMITTED at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, this 20th day of March, 2024.

  
Jared M. Strauss  
United States Magistrate Judge